

CHAPTER 10 - OBJECTIVES AND POLICY

MISSION STATEMENT

The principle mission of the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center (CPC) is to provide safe, cost effective, and timely response of resources for appropriate management response to wildland fires and other emergency management activities within the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center area. CPC's coordination effort will be in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Area Interagency Coordination Center (RMC) and those dispatch centers within the CPC neighborhood (Cody, Rawlins, Great Plains, and Miles City). The cooperating agencies involved with the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center include:

Bureau of Land Management (Wyoming High Plains District)
US Forest Service (Medicine Bow/Routt National Forests, Thunder Basin National Grasslands)
National Park Service (Fort Laramie National Historic Site)
Wyoming State Forestry Division (Buffalo, Black Hills and South Eastern Districts)
Albany County (State, Private & USFS lands)
Campbell County
Carbon County (within the USFS Boundaries)
Converse County
Goshen County
Johnson County
Natrona County
Niobrara County
Platte County
Sheridan/Clearmont District
Weston County

The Casper Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies policy and agreements that establish standard procedures that guide the operations of multi-agency/jurisdictional logistical support activities. This guide is an extension of Agency Manuals, Handbooks, Directives, and Instructional Memorandums relating to logistical support. This guide is intended to promote uniformity of logistical support communications, facilitate interagency dispatch coordination and ensure that the most timely and cost effective support services are provided. It is designed to accommodate amendments, and will be recognized as currently applicable until amended. This guide is a supplement to the National and Area Mobilization Guides.

The Agency Administrators are responsible for review and approval of Policy (Chapter 10), Administrative Procedures (Chapter 20), Organization (Chapter 30), and Cooperation (Chapter 40).

The Casper Interagency Dispatch Center is responsible for the CPC mobilization guide development and review of Chapters 50 through 80.

Total Mobility

The positioning and utilization of resources to meet anticipated and existing incident, preparedness, severity, wildland and prescribed fire needs regardless of geographic location or agency affiliation.

Priorities

When competition exists for resources, priorities shall be established by the CPC Center Manager during CPC Preparedness Levels I-III and in conjunction with the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center Coordinating Group (Local Multi-Agency Coordination Group (LMAC)) at Preparedness Levels IV and V. In setting priorities, the following criteria should be considered:

Maintaining initial action capability.

Protecting communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources, in the following order:

- Communities
- Community infrastructure (including: long term effects to economic sustainability and viability)
- Historically significant cultural resources
- Commercial business
- Principle residence (year-round homes)
- Non-principle residence (seasonal homes, cabins, etc.)
- Out-buildings (barns, unattached garages, utility buildings, etc.)
- Limiting costs without compromising safety
- Meeting agency protection and resource management objectives
- Support to National Response Framework (NRF) taskings

SCOPE OF OPERATION

General

National Response Framework Refer to NMG (2-46)

Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Refer to NMG (3-24)

Response to Incidents Other Than Wildland Fires Refer to RMG (3-4)

There is no statutory authority for Wyoming State Forestry Division personnel to respond to out-of-state, non-fire related emergencies. Therefore, Wyoming State Forestry Division employees are not available for out-of-state, non-fire related incidents unless a National Emergency is declared or it is a FEMA incident.

Mutual Aid Agreements

Mutual Aid agreements have the primary purpose of providing Initial Response and short term logistical support between adjoining units and dispatch centers. Initial Response are incidents that are controlled by the Initial Responding forces without need for major reinforcements within a reasonable time period. Casper Dispatch Center has the authority to utilize the resources of adjoining centers as stated in the RMG.

Prior to the mobilization of Initial Response resources, it is agreed that:

- Initial Response resources will be mobilized without delay, a Resource Order from the receiving dispatch center will follow as time allows.

- No Initial Response resource responding across geographic boundaries will be mobilized further than that adjoining center boundary.

Refer to the specific County Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for a synopsis of the Mutual Aid Agreements pertaining to the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center and its cooperators.

Reciprocal Fire Protection Services

Reciprocal Fire Protection Services exist between the Federal Agencies, Wyoming State Forestry Division, Counties and County Fire Districts located within the Casper Dispatch Area. The services are authorized and approved through the Wyoming Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement and the individual County Fire Management Annual Operating Plans. (Refer to the Wyoming State Forestry Mini Fire Mobilization Plan)

Responsibilities of the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center Refer to RMG (4-7)

Responsibilities of the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center

Refer to the 2011 Annual Operating Plan for the Casper Interagency Dispatch Coordinating Group in Chapter 10.

Responsibilities of Rocky Mountain Agencies Refer to RMG (5-1)

Responsibilities of the RMCG Fire Duty Officer Refer to RMG (5-37)

MOBILIZATION/DEMOBILIZATION Refer to RMG (6-8)

Casper Interagency Dispatch Center will provide logistical support to all Units located within the dispatch area. CPC will coordinate movement of all resources within the Dispatch Center's area of influence. The Dispatch Center Manager or acting has delegated authority from Federal and State Land Management Agencies as identified by signatories of the Annual Operating Plan for CPC. The delegated authority is outlined within this guide and establishes policies and procedures for the mobilization of personnel, equipment, supplies, and aircraft for incident emergencies and pre-suppression in the Casper Dispatch Area, Rocky Mountain Area, and Nationally.

Frequency Management

Federal and State Land Management Agencies agree to the sharing of specific radio frequencies that are authorized/licensed for each agency. Shared frequencies are to provide efficient, cost effective radio/communication support in protecting life and property. The sharing of frequencies is under the authority of the NTIA Regulations Manual, Sections 7.3.1, 7.3.4, and 7.5.1 and the FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 90, Sections 90.405 and 90.407. Refer to the specific County Annual Operating Plan for the shared frequencies within the CPC zone.

Mobilization/Demobilization

WildCad will be used for movement of resources for Initial Response within the CPC area. At the point in time when resources are utilized beyond the mutual aid period a ROSS order will be generated and will serve as a legal payment document. Safe and rapid mobilization/demobilization will be cost effective, commensurate with values at risk, and consistent with all agencies resource management objectives.

ROSS will be used for mobilization of all resources from outside of the Casper Dispatch area for prescribed fire and fire assignments.

When CPC has depleted jurisdictional and mutual aid resources, requests for assistance will be placed with neighbors first and then with RMACC. The ROSS/Resource Order Form will be used for tracking and payment purposes.

Units/Agencies filling requests for resources are responsible for ensuring that those resources meet the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Qualification and Certification Handbook (NWCG, 310-1) and/or the minimum requirements as outlined in the Fireline Handbook.

Length of Assignment

Length of assignment will normally be 14 days (excluding travel). Refer to the NMG and NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook Sections 12.7-2 and 12.7-3 for detailed Length of Assignment and Work/Rest Guidelines.

Work Rest Guidelines Refer to RMG (6-27)

Work Rest Guidelines for all local initial attack resources (including those that are on a detail in excess of 14 days) will be 1 day off for every 14 days worked. Every effort will be made to provide the day off on a regularly scheduled day off. If resources have been working extended hours (12-14 hrs/day) for the 14 day period, it is the responsibility of the District FMO's to determine if more than one day off is needed to manage fatigue. It is the District FMO's responsibility to monitor/manage days off and ensure that Initial Response resources are adequate.

Resources returning from an off unit assignment of 14 days will have 2 days off. Anything less than 14 days will not warrant automatic days off, but will be left to the discretion of the District FMO, based on fatigue factors and total days worked, etc.

14 day assignment = 14 duty days + travel

21 day assignment = 21 days total, includes travel

Refer to the NWCG Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook for further information.

Incident Operations Driving Refer to RMG (8-1)

Initial Attack Definition - Refer to NMG (6-39)

Resource Mobilization

All orders for resources will be initiated/generated by the unit or District FMO responsible for the incident through CPC. Orders shall be processed through established dispatch channels using the standard National Coordination System.

All resources mobilized beyond Initial Response will adhere to the NWCG Physical Fitness Standards.

National and Area Resources Refer to RMG (9-1)

Dispatching of National and/or Area resources within and across the defined Rocky Mountain Area boundaries shall comply with the RMG.

Notification of Commitment of National & Area Resources Refer to RMG (10-1)

Notification of commitment of National and Area resources will be via electronic means within 15 minutes of commitment. CPC will notify RMACC and neighbors via a "commit" message.

In the case of electronic mail problems, a telephone call to the affected centers will suffice. Commit messages will be done when the following circumstances occur:

- When National or Area Resources are committed internally to an incident or are no longer available for dispatch
- When available again
- When location changes

Notification Refer to RMG (10-17)

Unable to Fill (UTF) Procedures Refer to RMG (10-30)

Standard Cubes, Weight and Gear Policy (excluding smokejumpers) Refer to RMG (11-1)

All personnel will meet the following limitations when dispatched outside of the CPC area.

- One frameless soft pack not to exceed 45 pounds
- Web gear or briefcase (not both) not to exceed 20 pounds
- Maximum allowable crew weight, including equipment is 5300 pounds.
- All personnel baggage weights must be displayed separately from individual weights on flight manifests.

Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts

Fire weather forecasts will be disseminated to all fire fighting personnel. The morning fire weather forecast is available to all resources on the web; if needed, field units will receive this information via radio. The afternoon fire weather forecast will be simulcast on all appropriate frequencies available to the Casper Interagency Dispatch Center at 1600 daily.

Requests for spot weather forecasts for wildland fires will be made through CPC. Depending on location of the incident, CPC will contact Riverton, Cheyenne, Billings or Rapid City National Weather Service's and request the spot forecast. When the spot forecast is received, CPC will disseminate the information to the requesting incident either by cell phone or radio.

Spot Weather Forecast requests for Prescribed Fire can be made directly to the weather service by the Burn Boss or their designee. The Dispatch Center will be notified of the request, assuring that information becomes part of the Incident Action card for historical record purposes.

Red Flag Warnings/Watches and updates to the fire weather forecast will be disseminated to all fire fighting personnel via radio or briefing. Verbal verification will be made with field units for all Red Flag and Fire Weather watches. Red Flag Warnings will be faxed to Laramie County upon receipt.

All weather forecasts and Red Flag Warnings and Watches are posted on the Weather Service's web site. It can be accessed through the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center web site. Go to <http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/> then click on the Intelligence Icon, under Predictive Services and select the desired product from the menu.

Strike Teams/Engines Refer to RMG (53-29)

Strike teams will not be ordered locally, orders for individual engines will be processed and strike teams can be formed at the incident.

- 1 **Engine Staffing**
- 2 CPC heavy engines will be staffed with at least 3 persons upon dispatch to an incident.
- 3 Every effort will be made to staff CPC light engines with 3 persons. For dispatches to
- 4 an off unit assignment, engines will be staffed with 3.